

Message Text

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72

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 L-03 NSC-10

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R 181514Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2446

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, PINT, VE

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT CALDERA DEFENDS NEW LABOR LAW REGULATIONS

REF: CARACAS 443 AND 553

1. PRESIDENT CALDERA DEVOTED MOST OF HIS JANUARY 17 WEEKLY PRESS CONFERENCE TO A VIGOROUS DEFENSE OF RECENTLY-PROMULGATED NEW REGULATIONS TO THE VENEZUELAN LABOR LAW (BEING REPORTED BY AIRGRAM). CALDERA DESCRIBED THE REGULATIONS AS AN ACT OF SOCIAL JUSTICE, AND INSISTED THEY WOULD GO INTO EFFECT ON FEBRUARY 1 AS EARLIER ANNOUNCED

REFERRING TO SHARP CRITICISM BY THE PRIVATE SECTOR OF THAT PORTION OF THE LABOR LAW REGULATIONS EXTENDING TO AGRICULTURAL WORKERS BENEFITS WHICH HITHERTO ONLY URBAN WORKERS HAVE ENJOYED (CARACAS 443), CALDERA DEFENDED HIS ADMINISTRATION'S AGRICULTURAL POLICIES AND SAID THAT NOT ONLY PERSONS SHARING THE ATTITUDE OF THE PRESIDENT OF FEDECAMARAS TOWARD THE NEW LABOR REGULATIONS AFFECTING AGRICULTURAL WORKERS (CARACAS 443) HAD VOTED ON DECEMBER 9, BUT ALSO "FARMERS, WORKERS AND PEOPLE WITH A MIND OPEN TO PROGRESS WHICH REJOICES WHEN THE NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY IS AFFIRMED AND STRENGTHENED." CALDERA ALSO REMARKED THAT IT WOULD BE WRONG TO INTERPRET COPEI'S DEFEAT AT THE POLLS DECEMBER 9 AS INDICATING THAT VENEZUELAN ARE OPPOSED TO NATIONALISM.

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2. COMMENT: CALDERA MAY BE SERVING NOTICE THAT HE INTENDS TO

ANNOUNCE FURTHER NATIONALISTIC AND SOCIALISTIC MEASURES
BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE FROM OFFICE A LITTLE MORE THAN SEVEN WEEKS
HENCE (CARACAS 553).
MCCLINTOCK

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Message Attributes

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